# Elections Week HSS Week 2 Addendum

# NEG

## General Uniqueness

### Yes Hillary – Silver

#### Nate Silver predicts Hillary wins the election – best predictions

Stacqualursi 6/29/16 – Veronica Stracqualursi, Production Assistant, Education at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2016(“FiveThirtyEight's Nate Silver Predicts Hillary Clinton Wins Election Against Donald Trump”, ABC News, June 29, <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/fivethirtyeights-nate-silver-predicts-hillary-clinton-wins-election/story?id=40213871>, 06 – 29 – 2016, EC)

This morning on ABC's “Good Morning America,” FiveThirtyEight’s Nate Silver predicted that Hillary Clinton will win the presidential election against Donald Trump. Clinton has a 79 percent chance of winning, compared with Trump's 20 percent, according to FiveThirtyEight’s forecast. "We're at halftime of the election right now," Silver said. "She's taking a 7-point, maybe a 10-point lead into halftime. There's a lot of football left to be played. She's ahead in almost every poll, every swing state, every national poll." Silver said "both candidates have a lot of room to grow," but the only recent candidate to blow a lead like the one Clinton holds was Massachusetts' then-Gov. Michael Dukakis in 1988. "Trump has never been ahead of Clinton in the general election campaign," Silver said. "He did a great job of appealing to the 40 percent of the GOP he had to win the election, the primary — a lot different than winning 51 percent of 100 percent." Silver called 49 states correctly in the 2008 presidential election and got all 50 in 2012. FiveThirtyEight launches its general election forecast later today here.

### Yes Hillary – A2: Brexit

#### Our card assumes all of your brexit warrants, they don’t matter, Trump will still lose – polls and electoral math

Jackson 6/24/16 [David Jackson, David Jackson has been a reporter for more than three decades, and now covers the White House for USA TODAY, 2016(“ Does the Brexit vote mean Trump will win in November?,” USA Today, June 24, <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/06/24/donald-trump-brexit-scotland-hillary-clinton-president-obama/86329036/>, 06/24/2016, EC)

Shocked at the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union, American political observers can't help but wonder: Will this help Donald Trump? Trump certainly thinks so. Saying "people want to take their country back," the Republican presidential candidate told a news conference Friday in Scotland: "I really do see a parallel between what's happening in the United States and what's happening here." USA TODAY Trump says U.K. vote to leave EU is a 'great thing' And while there are good signs for Trump in the Brexit vote, there are also signs it won't make much difference. "Nobody really knows," Trump himself acknowledged. Among the good signs for Trump in the wake of Brexit: • It shows what potent issues immigration and free trade have become for voters who are struggling economically; these issues are at the heart of Brexit and the ongoing Trump campaign. • British politics have been known to presage developments in their former colony. Nearly four decades ago, conservative leader Margaret Thatcher overturned the British political establishment by becoming prime minister in 1979 — one year before Ronald Reagan did much the same thing by winning the American presidency. • Nationalism has re-emerged as a major political force in politics worldwide, and that bodes well for a candidate whose slogan is "Make America Great Again." • Both Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton and President Obama supported British membership in the European Union; are they misreading the American political mood as well? There are also signs that Brexit won't matter in the United States in November: • This was an election unique to Europe, with few ramifications for the United States. • Markets in the United States and other countries are likely to take an economic hit over Brexit, at least in the short term, and there will be other unforeseen consequences; the blowback could hurt Trump-style politics. • Elections are about individuals, and Trump and Clinton are already well-known by American voters. New polls show Trump slipping behind Clinton; while the New York businessman is competitive in places like Pennsylvania and Ohio, he is struggling in must-win Republican states like Florida, Arizona, and Utah.

#### Hillary will win in the status quo- but it’s close AND BREXIT does not translate to Trump success

**Salvanto 6/26/16**— Anthony Salvanto, ANTHONY M. SALVANTO is CBS News’s Manager of Surveys. He develops questionnaires, analyzes data and writes poll releases for the CBS News and CBS News/New York Times Polls, and coordinates airing of results with broadcast producers and correspondents. In addition, he is a member of the CBS News Decision Desk, which is responsible for estimating election results for live broadcast on Election Nights. He also writes for CBSNews.com on public opinion and has appeared on the CBS Evening News and on CBS Radio.Before joining CBS in 2002, Anthony did work in commercial research, conducting market segmentation studies, focus groups and providing strategic consulting for public- and private-sector clients. While teaching Political Science at the University of California at Irvine in 2001, Anthony served the Carter-Ford Commission on Election Reform, on a task force seeking to improve the nation's voting systems. He was also the primary consultant for USA Today's review of disputed ballots from the 2000 Election. Anthony is a frequent presenter at National AAPOR and other professional conferences. His publications have appeared in American Politics Quarterly and the edited volume Voting at the Fault Line. His B.A. is from Tufts University and Ph.D. from the University of California, Irvine, where he later was a Faculty Fellow. Anthony served NYAAPOR as Membership Chair this past year. He forged our new partnership with the New York Market Research Association, which opens their events and development workshops to our members, and vice-versa. He also helped institute our no-cost option for new student members. As President, Anthony would look forward to continuing the progress we have made this year building links across all sectors of the New York research community, 2016 (“Poll: Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton in tight races in battleground states,” CBS News, June 26, http://www.cbsnews.com/news/poll-donald-trump-hillary-clinton-poll-florida-north-carolina-wisconsin-colorado-battleground-states/, Accessed 06-29-2016, AB )

Battleground states are called battlegrounds for a reason: They're often close, and 2016 looks like no exception. Hillary Clinton holds narrow leads over Donald Trump across a number of key states of Florida (up three points, 44 to 41 percent); Colorado (Clinton 40 percent, Trump 39 percent); Wisconsin (Clinton up 41 percent to 36 percent) and North Carolina, which has flipped back and forth between the parties in the last two elections, where it's Clinton 44 percent and Trump 42 percent. In the wake of the [Brexit referendum in the United Kingdom this week](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/donald-trump-us-politicians-react-to-brexit-vote/), many wondered if the same sentiments that drove voters to leave the UK, such as voter unease about the economic and cultural effects of globalization, were at work in the U.S. presidential election, too. [Similar sentiments underpin](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/in-trump-brexit-supporters-a-shared-anger-and-grievances/) Donald Trump's general election vote, though there is not yet enough for him to surpass Clinton. Trump is also competitive in large part because of partisanship, as rank-and file Republicans continue to get behind him, even as Republican leaders have been more lukewarm toward the way Trump is running his campaign. About one-third of voters in these states feel the U.S. has done too much in trying to become part of the global economy; too much to make changes to its culture and values, and encouraged too much diversity of people from different backgrounds. Those sentiments are especially pronounced among Republicans and conservatives in these battleground states, majorities of whom feel that way. And those voters are overwhelmingly supporting Donald Trump over Hillary Clinton. Partisanship is driving much of these horse races too. Despite the [hard-fought primary contests on both sides](http://www.cbsnews.com/elections/2016/primaries/), Democrats in these states are now lining up behind Hillary Clinton and Republicans behind Trump--each garnering around eight in ten from their respective camps. And much of the vote appears locked in already: the bulk of those not voting for Clinton say they will not consider her, and the bulk of those not voting for Trump say they will not consider him. In Florida, sizable numbers of voters are voting in opposition to a candidate they don't like: Forty-eight percent of Trump's voters are backing him mainly to oppose Hillary Clinton, and 32 percent of Clinton's voters are with Clinton in order to oppose Trump. That opposition effect works for both candidates, but voters say each party may have lost opportunities. Fifty percent of those not backing Clinton say they might have considered a Democrat this year had the party not been selecting Clinton as its nominee, and 47 percent of those not for Trump say they might have considered a Republican, but won't support Trump. Voters see many themes in this election, though partisans have very different views on which of them are the most important. Most feel the election is a lot about the safety and security of the country (in Florida, 74 percent say so, as do 70 percent in North Carolina) and most say it's also about what it means to be an American (59 percent say so in Florida) and about whether or not the economy works fairly (53 percent say so in Wisconsin, for example.) Trump voters and Republicans are more apt to say it's about what it means to be American, and also about changing Washington. Clinton voters in these states are less likely to say it's about changing Washington, and more apt to say this race is about making the economy work, and about security the rights of people who deserve them. While some [Republican leaders are at best lukewarm about how Trump](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/donald-trump-george-will-leave-gop-election-2016/) is running his campaign, rank-and-file Republicans in these states are largely okay with it, and many don't care whether or not Trump listens to party leaders. This was an anti-establishment sentiment we saw repeatedly through the primary season, too. However for the larger electorate, and especially among independents, this campaign is leaving them a bit distant. Independents say that the Democrats nominating Clinton hasn't made them think better of the Democratic party, and that the Republicans nominating Trump hasn't made them think better of the Republicans. In Florida, 63 percent feel Hillary Clinton's response to the Orlando tragedy showed compassion for the victims, while 46 percent feel Trump's response did. Across these states, Clinton is much more widely described as being prepared to be commander-in-chief. Meanwhile Trump is more widely seen as able to bring change to Washington, and seen by slightly more as able to fix the economy. In Florida, 51 percent describe Clinton as prepared, while 38 percent say that of Trump. Sixty-five percent say Trump would bring change, while just 33 percent say that of Clinton.

### Yes Hillary – Ohio

#### Hillary is on track to blow out Trump in the swing state Ohio – recent changes in Trump’s Ohio campaign only worsen his chances

Easley 6/20/16 [Jason Easley, writer at Politicus, 2016, (“Hillary Clinton Is Blowing Out Trump On The Ground In Ohio And It’s Not Even Close,” Politicus, <http://www.politicususa.com/2016/06/20/hillary-clinton-blowing-trump-ground-ohio-close.html>, June 20th, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Hillary Clinton is organizing and campaigning heavily in swing states. What’s happening on the ground in Ohio is a perfect example of how Clinton is organizing to win the White House from the ground up. Henry Gomez of The Cleveland Plain Dealer reported on the state of the presidential race in Ohio: Yet Trump is poorly organized in this region – he’s not particularly well organized anywhere – and hasn’t visited the Buckeye State since March. Conversely, Clinton’s stop Tuesday will be her second in eight days. …. Democrats say they now have 150 full-time employees on the ground in Ohio. It’s a mix of Ohio Democratic Party and Democratic National Committee staff. In the weeks since Clinton locked up the nomination, all factions appear to be working harmoniously toward her election and toward the election of Ted Strickland, who is challenging Republican Sen. Rob Portman. …. The Republican National Committee has more than 50 paid employees on the ground in the state – less than what was expected by this point. And Trump is still relying on the same in-state personnel that guided him to a loss against Kasich in the state’s March primary. Donald Trump isn’t even trying to compete in Ohio. Hillary Clinton is already out organizing Trump in swing states across the country, but what is happening in Ohio is dramatic because Republicans know that it will be impossible for them to win the White House if Hillary Clinton carries Ohio. Trump is making the Republican Party run his campaign for him, and at a time when he should have been building his organization on the ground, the presumptive Republican nominee is firing his campaign manager and off to Scotland to handle “personal business.” Hillary Clinton is building a formidable organization for November, and Donald Trump doesn’t seem to care. Trump is laying the groundwork for defeat. Television interviews can’t replace boots on the ground in swing states. If Hillary Clinton wins Ohio in November, it will be because she trounced Trump in the Buckeye State by laying the foundation for victory all summer long.

### Yes Hillary – Florida

#### Clinton will win Florida – most recent polls show.

Fox News Politics 6/21/16 Fox News, 2016 (“Swing state polls: Clinton pulls ahead in Florida, tied with Trump in Ohio,” Fox News, <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/06/21/swing-state-polls-clinton-pulls-ahead-in-florida-tied-with-trump-in-ohio.html>, June 21st, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Hillary Clinton is moving up in the polls in two key battlegrounds as the race shifts to the general election, pulling ahead of Donald Trump in the pivotal swing state of Florida and bringing the race for Ohio to a dead heat. The latest Quinnipiac University Poll shows Clinton leading her presumptive Republican rival 47-39 percent in the Sunshine State. That’s up from a near-draw in similar polling a month ago. The former secretary of state also has closed Trump’s modest lead in Ohio, with the latest poll showing the candidates at a 40-40 percent tie. The polling follows a rough patch for the Trump campaign. The billionaire businessman has been sparring with fellow Republicans over his controversial comments and proposals – including remarks about a U.S. federal judge’s Mexican heritage and his call to temporarily halt Muslim immigration. On Monday, Trump ousted his campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski. Nevertheless, Trump and his top advisers are voicing confidence about the road ahead. Asked about the Quinnipiac polling, Trump told Fox News that it comes after he’s been “hammered by the dishonest media.”

#### Clinton beats Trump with Hispanic vote – key for independent and swing voters in largely Hispanic Florida.

Smith 16 Adam Smith, Times Political Editor, 2016 (“Can Donald Trump win Florida? Yes, but he probably won't”, Tampa Bay Times, <http://www.tampabay.com/news/politics/stateroundup/can-donald-trump-win-florida-yes-but-he-probably-wont/2276269,> May 6th, accessed 6/29/16) WP

The recent Associated Industries poll found nearly 9 in 10 Hispanics in Florida view Trump negatively. "Hispanic voters represent such a big bloc of independent voters today, as well as swing voters and disaffected Republicans, that if we do our politics and our messaging right and we get our voters out, we've got an opportunity to run up really historic numbers in South Florida because of the nature of Trump's candidacy," said Scott Arceneaux, executive director of the Florida Democratic Party and senior adviser to Clinton's Florida campaign. Dario Moreno, a Republican pollster and associate politics professor at Florida International University, recently surveyed 400 Miami-Dade, Cuban-American voters — once a reliable GOP voting bloc — and found 37 percent support for Trump. That's higher than the 31 percent for Clinton, but still a dire warning for Florida Republicans. "We've been seeing demographic changes in this community since 2004," Moreno said, as younger voters of Cuban descent have increasingly identified as Democrats or independents. "With Trump, the real danger is that he's going to accelerate this realignment in Miami." Ryan Tyson, Associated Industries vice president of political operations, expects as much as one-third of Florida's electorate in November will be nonwhite. As things stand, Trump appears hard-pressed to win any state with a population of under 75 percent white. That would make big, traditional battleground or GOP-leaning states including North Carolina, Virginia and Colorado tough for Trump. Diverse and heavily Democratic South Florida alone could make Florida out of reach for Trump.

### Yes Hillary – New Hampshire

#### Clinton has a narrow lead over Trump in New Hampshire now

Hensch 16 Mark Hensch, writer at The Hill, 2016 (“Clinton leads Trump by 2 points in NH,” The Hill, <http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/presidential-races/280309-poll-clinton-leads-trump-by-2-points-in-nh>, May 18th, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton would squeak past Donald Trump in New Hampshire if the general presidential election happened today, according to a new poll. Clinton leads Trump, 42 to 40 percent, in the WBUR survey released Wednesday. Six percent would prefer another candidate, while 9 percent do not know or are undecided. Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee, faces a more daunting challenge in New Hampshire if Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) ultimately becomes the Democratic presidential nominee. Sanders leads Trump by 17 points in that scenario, 53 to 36 percent. Four percent would prefer another candidate, while 6 percent do not know or are undecided. Wednesday’s results also show that Clinton and Trump are viewed unfavorably by a majority of likely New Hampshire voters. Clinton and Trump both hold 58 percent unfavorable ratings, pollsters found. Sanders is the best-liked presidential candidate in New Hampshire, boasting a 55 percent favorable rating. WBUR surveyed 501 likely voters in New Hampshire from May 12 to 15. Its survey has a 4.4-percentage point margin of error.

### Yes Hillary – Swing States Laundry List

#### Clinton leads Trump in most Swing States – polls prove

Scanlon 6/29/16 – Kate Scanlon, Kate Scanlon is an assistant editor for TheBlaze. She is a graduate of Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. She is a former news reporter for The Daily Signal and a former intern for TheBlaze, 2016(“Trump Trails Clinton in Seven Battleground States, but These Two Hypothetical GOP Candidates Fare Better”, The Blaze, June 29, <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2016/06/29/trump-trails-clinton-in-seven-battleground-states-but-these-two-hypothetical-gop-candidates-fare-better/>, 06 – 29 – 2016, EC)

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump continues to trail presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton — both nationally and in battleground states — according to a new poll released Wednesday. But two hypothetical Republican candidates actually would fare much better. Presumptive Republican candidate for president Donald Trump speaks to guests during a policy speech during a campaign stop at Alumisource on June 28, 2016 in Monessen, Pennsylvania. (Jeff Swensen/Getty Images) Presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump delivers an economic policy speech Tuesday in Monessen, Pennsylvania. (Jeff Swensen/Getty Images) According to a new Ballotpedia poll, Clinton leads Trump in Florida, Iowa, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia — swing states crucial to winning the White House. The poll shows that in five of those states — Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia — Clinton enjoys a double-digit cushion. Interestingly, the survey found that in hypothetical match-ups Ohio Gov. John Kasich (R) leads Clinton in five of the seven states, and House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) leads Clinton in three states.

#### Clinton Leads Trump in 7 swing states

Nelson 6/29/ 16 – Louis Nelson, He works with POLITICO's breaking news team, after spending a year on the web team, where he was a producer and editor. Before, Louis worked at Washington's WJLA-TV as a web editor and at The Washington Post, where he covered. Louis is a graduate of George Washington University, 2016(“Battleground bloodbath: Clinton leads Trump in 7 swing states”, Politico, June 29, <http://www.politico.com/blogs/swing-states-2016-election/2016/06/clinton-trump-swing-state-poll-224923>, 06 – 29 – 2016, EC)

Hillary Clinton is polling higher than Donald Trump in seven swing states, holding leads ranging from 4 to 17 percentage points, according to a poll released Wednesday. Of the seven states polled by Ballotpedia, Clinton’s lead was smallest in Iowa, where registered voters who responded to the poll preferred her by 4 points. The former secretary of state’s largest lead came in Michigan, a traditionally Democratic-leaning state where Trump has said he could compete in November. Clinton leads the Manhattan billionaire there by 17 points, 50 percent to 33 percent. Clinton also holds double-digit leads over Trump in Florida (14 points), Pennsylvania (14 points) and North Carolina (10 points). Respondents preferred her to Trump by 9 points in Ohio and 7 points in Virginia. Clinton maintained her advantage when respondents were offered a third option, Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson, although her leads shifted slightly. In a three-way race, Clinton’s lead among those polled dropped to just 3 points in Iowa and 6 points in North Carolina. But Johnson’s introduction as an option increased the former secretary of state’s lead to 15 points and 8 points in Pennsylvania and Virginia, respectively. Ballotpedia also polled Clinton in presidential matchups against two other prominent Republicans, House Speaker Paul Ryan and Ohio Gov. John Kasich, even though Trump has been the GOP’s presumptive nominee since early May and both men have disavowed interest in running. Kasich polled well against the former secretary of state, besting her in five states: Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Ryan polled better than Clinton in three states: Iowa, Ohio and Virginia. The Ballotpedia poll was conducted among active registered voters via landlines and cellphones from June 10-22, much longer than the usual three to five days for a statewide poll. Interviewers reached 596 respondents in Florida, 601 in Iowa, 612 in Michigan, 603 in North Carolina and 601 in Pennsylvania, all with a margin of error of plus or minus 4 points. The poll also reached 617 registered voters in Ohio and 612 in Virginia, each with a margin of error of plus or minus 3.9 points. Ballotpedia, an online political encyclopedia whose staff covers politics and elections, is sponsored by the nonprofit organization the Lucy Burns Institute.

#### Clinton wins swing states – political insiders report

**Glueck 16’**— Katie Glueck, Katie Glueck, Katie Glueck is a national political reporter at POLITICO, where she covers the 2016 presidential election. Her work has also appeared in publications including the Wall Street Journal, the Austin American-Statesman, the Kansas City Star and Washingtonian magazine. She is a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, and is a native of Kansas City, 2016 (“Insiders: Clinton Would Crush Trump In November,” Politico, June 29, http://www.politico.com/story/2016/04/hillary-clinton-donald-trump-november-insiders-222598, Accessed 06-29-2016, AB)

In the swing states that matter most in the presidential race, Donald Trump doesn’t have a prayer against Hillary Clinton in the general election. That’s according to top operatives, strategists and activists in 10 battleground states who participated in this week’sa POLITICO Caucus. Nearly 90 percent of them said Clinton would defeat Trump in their home states in a November matchup. Republicans are only slightly more bullish on Trump’s prospects than Democrats: More than three-quarters of GOP insiders expect Clinton to best the Republican front-runner in a general-election contest in their respective states. Among Democrats, the belief is nearly universal: 99 percent of surveyed said will Clinton will beat Trump.

In three of the biggest swing states — Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida — Republicans were particularly downbeat about the prospect of a Trump-Clinton contest. “There is positively no way for Trump to win in Pennsylvania,” said a Republican from that state. “Trump cannot and will not carry Ohio,” a Republican from that state insisted. “He will do well in Appalachia and in the Mahoning Valley, but he will get killed in the rest of the state. The danger for the GOP is losing Rob Portman, which is a very real possibility under this matchup.” Added a Florida Republican, who like all participants was granted anonymity in order to speak freely, “Trump is grinding the GOP to a stub. He couldn't find enough xenophobic, angry white Floridians to beat Hillary in Florida if he tried.”

#### Clinton wins swing states – democratic unity, demographics, and trends prove

**Montanaro 6/26/16** — Domenico Montanaro, Domenico Montanaro is NPR's lead editor for politics and digital audience. Based in Washington, D.C., he directs political coverage across the network's broadcast and digital platforms. Before joining NPR in 2015, Montanaro served as political director and senior producer for politics and law at PBS NewsHour. There, he led domestic political and legal coverage, which included the 2014 midterm elections, the Supreme Court and the unrest in Ferguson, Mo. Prior to PBS NewsHour, Montanaro was deputy political editor at NBC News, where he covered two presidential elections and reported and edited for the network's political blog, "First Read." He has also worked at CBS News, ABC News, *The Asbury Park Press* in New Jersey, and has taught high-school English. Montanaro earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Delaware and a master's degree in Journalism from Columbia University, 2016 (“NPR Battleground Map: Florida, Pennsylvania Move In Opposite Directions,”NPR News, June 26, http://www.npr.org/2016/06/26/483452230/npr-battleground-map-florida-pennsylvania-move-in-opposite-directions, Accessed 06-29-2016, AB)

The past month has not been kind to Donald Trump. He has landed in controversy on everything from how much he (eventually) gave to veterans groups to Trump University (and the judge who he declared biased because of his Mexican heritage) to his response to the Orlando shooting. National polling has certainly reflected that — Hillary Clinton has opened up a 6-point lead in the RealClearPolitics average of the polls after the two were tied at the end of May. But Trump continues to be competitive in places like Ohio and Pennsylvania because of blue-collar white voters. Polling and reporting bears that out. NPR's Don Gonyea, for example, traveled to Northeastern Ohio earlier this month and found Rust Belt union voters, people who should be reliable Democrats, considering Trump, in part, because of his trade message. Still, there appears to be some earth shifting beneath Trump's feet, especially with disunity between Trump and party leaders and the pause he's giving some rank-and-file, mainstream Republicans. At the same time, Democrats have moved more toward unity. Clinton joined Trump as the presumptive nominee for *her* party, got the endorsement of President Obama and liberal hero Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, and Bernie Sanders is inching closer to endorsing her. When evaluating the landscape this month, we have made some changes to the NPR Battleground Map, most notably: -Florida (29 EVs) moves from Toss Up to Lean D -Pennsylvania (20 EVs) moves from Lean D to Toss Up The changes are net-plus of 9 Electoral Votes for Clinton from last month's initial ratings. It moves Clinton's advantage in our map over Trump to 279-191, as you can see in our battleground map above. (This style of map is new this month and reflects a proportional representation of each state by Electoral Vote strength.) A presidential candidate needs 270 Electoral Votes to become president. In other words, if Clinton wins just the states leaning in her direction, she would be president without needing *any* of the toss up states — Colorado, Iowa, North Carolina, Ohio or Pennsylvania. (If you want to read about Trump's potential path, check out the write up of our initial ratings last month.) Florida Because of demographics, Florida has appeared to us to be, if not leaning, moving toward Democrats, especially with Trump on the ticket.

Adam Smith at the Tampa Bay Times noted: "A candidate wildly unpopular with non-white voters and presiding over a deeply fractured party with swaths of voters who can't stomach their nominee simply has little shot of winning a state as diverse and competitive as Florida. This, at least, is the conventional wisdom from wise political players who never imagined the reality star could win the Republican nomination against Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio. The*Tampa Bay Times* surveyed more than 130 Florida political professionals, fundraisers and other experienced politicos, and nearly 70 percent predicted Clinton will win Florida in November. ... "Florida being Florida, the safe assumption is that the numbers will tighten into a neck-and-neck contest by November. Yes, Trump can win America's biggest battleground state, but only if the GOP closes ranks behind him. And only if he can perform far better against Clinton than Mitt Romney did against Barack Obama in places like Tampa Bay and North Florida to compensate for what most experts predict will be a historic Democratic drubbing in vote-rich southeast Florida." A Quinnipiac poll this month showed Clinton up 8 (47 to 39 percent), though she only leads by 3 in the RCP average. Of course, while the fundamentals appear to favor Clinton there, Obama won it by less than a point in 2012 and Democrats worry that strict Voter ID laws could make it tight. Pennsylvania Democrats have won Pennsylvania in every presidential election in the last quarter-century (since 1992). But Pennsylvania is a place that is an emerging battleground. As David Wasserman wrote at 538: "I'd argue Pennsylvania has leapfrogged Colorado and Virginia as the next most winnable state for Republicans. In fact, it may be on pace to claim sole 'tipping point' status. As it turns out, Colorado and Virginia are among the top 10 fastest Democratic-trending states in the nation — they are, respectively, getting about 0.9 percentage points and 1.2 points more Democratic-leaning compared with the country every four years. By contrast, Pennsylvania has gradually migrated in the opposite direction. It's gotten about 0.4 percentage points more Republican every four years. Projecting this trend forward another four years from 2012's results would reorder the existing battleground states on the 2016 electoral map." NPR's Steve Inskeep and the team at NPR's *Morning Edition* traveled to a key county in Pennsylvania recently in *The View From Here* series — Bucks County. It's the kind of place Donald Trump likely has to win if he wants to win Pennsylvania. Obama won it twice, narrowly in 2012, as did John Kerry in 2004. Blue-collar whites were open to Trump's message. That's also true elsewhere in the state as well. See Politico's piece on Cambria County in the Western part of the state. It went for Romney, but is indicative of the trend in a place that used to go for Democrats. The key in Pennsylvania — especially places like Bucks that has a higher rate of college graduates than the country at large ([37 percent vs. 29 percent](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045215/42017,00)) — is if Trump's tone turns off GOP and independent white professionals.

The [RCP average](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/2016/president/pa/pennsylvania_trump_vs_clinton-5633.html) has Clinton just 0.5 percentage points ahead with polls this month showing her in the low 40s and 1-point, non-statistically significant, leads. Clinton has work to do to keep this state blue. Other changes/notes: -Georgia (16 EVs) from Likely R to Lean R: Georgia's demographic trends are unmistakable. The white versus non-white vote has drastically declined over the last couple of decades. Trump is still the favorite, but, like Obama in 2008, who finished just 5 points behind, the [RCP average](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/2016/president/ga/georgia_trump_vs_clinton-5741.html) right now is just 4. -Nebraska (1EV) from Likely R to Lean R: Nebraska is one of those states that splits its electoral votes by congressional district. This one, in the Omaha area, is the most left-leaning in the state. (Obama won it in 2008.) There is a Democratic congressman there, Brad Ashford, who was [endorsed Monday by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce](http://www.omaha.com/news/metro/u-s-chamber-of-commerce-endorses-brad-ashford-over-don/article_db146326-371c-11e6-9b74-bb1d36ed36b1.html). -Utah (6 EVs): There's been a lot of talk about Utah and whether it should move to Lean R. Mormons remain unconvinced of Trump and his morality, and because of that he's been struggling in the polls. But Clinton hasn't seen much of a boost, [polling in the 30s](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/2016/president/ut/utah_trump_vs_clinton-5834.html). No Democrat has won more than 35 percent (Obama in 2008) in Utah in the last 50 years. Now, if Clinton starts to poll in the 30s, or Gary Johnson, the Libertarian candidate, starts to get in the mid-to-high teens, then this state could be for real. But until then, it remains Likely R.

## Link

### Clinton Can’t Distance Herself

#### Clinton won’t be able to distance herself from the plan

Dueck 15 – PhD, Professor of Policy, Government and International Affairs @ GMU (Colin, “The Obama Doctrine,” p. 193-194)

Presidential elections are among other things a referendum on the previous four years.58 If the existing president is unpopular, then a nominee from the same party cannot altogether escape the association with an unpopular incumbent, John McCain was a very different person from George W, Bush in 2008, just as Hubert Humphrey was a very different person from Lyndon Johnson in 1968, but when an incumbent is unpopular it envelops and drags down his would be successor. President Obama's overall approval ratings have hovered around since the summer of 2013—not as low as Bush's by the end of his second term, but still not at all good. If a majority of Americans continue to disapprove of Obama by 2016, and to feel the country is on the wrong track, then voters will hold the Democratic Party's 2016 presidential nominee responsible for Obama's performance, regardless of candidate messaging. This includes voter evaluation of incumbent performance on foreign policy issues. A party's presidential nominee can try to distance him or herself from a weak incumbent, but if voters disapprove of a president's foreign policy, inevitably this hurts any would-be successor from the very same party. To be sure, presidential nominees from the party out of power must develop credible and constructive policy alternatives. But asking voters to reflect on the failure or success of an existing president’s foreign policy record is quite rightly a major part of what opposing nominees can and should do.

# AFF

## General Uniqueness

### Yes Trump – Turnout

#### Hillary portrayal as inevitable causes a “Brexit-like” situation where voters stay home leading to a Trump victory

Belluz 6/24/16 (Julia Belluz, senior health correspondent, writer for VOX, 2016 (UK students: we woke up feeling betrayed this morning, VOX, June 24th, available online at <http://www.vox.com/2016/6/24/12023548/brexit-youth-voters-wanted-britain-remain> accessed 06-24-16 PAM)

Aside from concern and confusion about the future, the students were surprised that Brexit could be real — and had words of caution for America. "I was so, so sure it wouldn’t happen," Rothwell said. "I was 100 percent sure." Walking through campus, Rothwell ran into a fellow student who admitted to being so wrapped up in exams that she didn’t vote — and now she’ll have to live with a decision that tilted against her preference to remain. Rothwell added: "Imagine a world where Boris Johnson and Donald Trump are making the most important political decisions." Johnson is London’s former mayor, who helped lead the "Leave" campaign after seeing a political opportunity to capitalize on a disillusioned electorate. He, along with UK Independence Party leader Nigel Farage, promised a return to a truly great and free Britain. If all this sounds familiar for Americans, the students did not miss the parallels either. And they advised Americans who are concerned about Trump not to be complacent in the upcoming US election. "In Oxford especially, there’s this liberal atmosphere. You’re surrounded by so many like-minded people you forget there’s an outside world," said Winn. "But especially in working-class communities, the Leave campaign was very popular. You do forget that being in an environment like this." The words should ripple like a cautionary tale across the Atlantic, added Lennard. "I have about 2,000 friends on Facebook — and all but three were voting ‘Remain.’ That tells you what kind of bubble you can live in, and how you can delude yourself it’s going to go one way and then it doesn’t." Lennard is, in particular, concerned about the rise of a violent right-wing electorate in his country. "Just as Trump is coming to his rise in the US, saying all these things about building a wall, politicians here have been saying similar things. And we all thought — ‘You can’t say that, that won’t appeal to British voters.’ But clearly it did."Correction: Lennard misstated the number of friends on his Facebook account.

### Yes Trump – Ohio

#### Trump will win in Ohio – recent agenda swings voters too his side in a tied state

Thompson 6/29/16 Chrissie Thompson, writer at Cincinnati, 2016, (“Can Donald Trump win Ohio with slightly tweaked message?,” Cincinnati, June 29th, Accessed on 6/29/16) WP

Donald Trump dipped into Ohio Tuesday, bringing to the quintessential swing state the same message and tone he used when he campaigned unsuccessfully for the state’s GOP primary nod – but with a few subtle tweaks. Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee, referred to the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal as “a rape of our country.” He praised the benefits of waterboarding against suspected terrorists of the Islamic State, arguing the U.S. must “fight fire with fire.” He extolled the beauty and size of his planned wall on the Mexican border, prompting the crowd’s standard “Build a wall! Build a wall!” chant. But parts of Trump’s message have changed a little in recent days, amid pleas from Republican leaders to tone it down and a scramble from his campaign to build a national operation. He’s giving more policy speeches, such as an address earlier Tuesday against globalization and trade deals. So wonky trade details, such as a reference to the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, popped up later that day amid his standard rally material, much to the disinterest of the crowd of around 2,000. He worked in a request for donations: “DonaldJTrump.com,” he added. He has backed off his plan to ban immigration by all Muslims, instead making several vague comments about screening or banning immigrants from countries where terrorists live. On Tuesday, he insisted, without giving documentation, that it was easier for Syrian Muslims to come to the U.S. as compared with Syrian Christians. One person started to boo. But then, as if seeking to ward off critiques accusing him of an anti-Muslim or xenophobic bent, he said: “I’m not saying one or the other (religion). I’m saying, how unfair is that? How bad is that?” He took a similar approach when he referred to the TPP as “rape.” “That’s what it is, too. It’s a harsh word,” he said, preemptively responding to criticism of his comparison of a violent crime to a trade deal. To win Ohio – and no Republican has made it to the White House without the Buckeye State – Trump must win over GOP voters who were wary of his controversial comments or positions. He lost the state’s primary in March to Ohio Gov. John Kasich, as many voters said they wanted to do their part to stop the billionaire’s march to the nomination. Many Ohio Republicans now say they dislike Trump’s presumptive opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton, but haven’t decided whether they can stomach a vote for Trump in November. Both Larry Waltz and Ashley Cochran referred to their choice in November as “the lesser of two evils.” Waltz, 74, who usually votes Republican, told a reporter driving through his hometown of Zanesville he hadn’t decided who would win his vote. Cochran, 28, has chosen Trump and drove from nearby Bridgeport to attend his rally at Ohio University Eastern’s campus. “I like people who think with their brain,” Cochran said, and Trump may be able to “actually fix things” in the economy.

### Yes Trump – Florida

#### The race for Florida is really tight right now; a strongly probable Hillary slip up and Trump’s more moderate view on immigration means the tides will most likely flip to his side.

Bernstein 16 David S. Bernstein, writer at Politico Magazine, 2016 (“How Hillary Loses,” Politico, <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2016/05/2016-election-hillary-clinton-campaign-loses-defeated-donald-trump-213924>, May 27th, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Early evidence certainly supports that belief. Hispanic-Americans dislike Trump—strongly dislike him—in massive majorities, according to polls. Legal residents are rushing to become citizens, and citizens are registering to vote, just so they can cast a ballot against him in November. That has Clinton supporters believing that she’ll win crucial victories in Florida—where 17 percent of the 2012 vote was Hispanic, according to exit polls—Colorado, Nevada and possibly even Arizona. But it would be difficult for Trump to keep doing as poorly with Latino voters as he’s done over the past year. And if he’s able to keep his incendiary language to a minimum, there is no guarantee that Clinton’s energy will hold for the many months until the election. There is also reason to think Clinton’s enthusiasm with Hispanic voters needs stoking. A new Fox Latino poll shows Clinton leading Trump by an impressive-sounding 39 points: 62 to 23. But there’s a problem: That 39-point spread is actually less than the 44 by which Barack Obama beat Mitt Romney in 2012. Florida, where Democratic confidence is sky-high, carries a critical 29 Electoral College votes. In 2012, according to exit polls, Hispanics made up a larger percentage of the state’s vote than in previous years, and Obama won a higher percentage of them—60 percent—than any Democrat had before. That translated into a 285,600-vote advantage (20 percent) among Hispanic voters for Obama over Romney in the state, which Obama carried by just 73,000 votes overall. The big question is: Can Clinton sustain that kind of historic lead? All Trump would have to do is roll back the Democratic advantage to 2008 levels, instead of 2012 levels, to reverse the tide. All else being equal, a return to 2008’s numbers—when Hispanics were 14 percent of the vote, and Obama won them by a 15 percent margin rather than 20 percent—would mean Democrats losing 109,200 votes off their advantage. And that could turn Obama’s 73,000-vote Florida victory into a 36,000-vote defeat. Yes, their numbers are growing. But Hispanics simply don’t like Clinton nearly as much as they like Obama: Her favorable/unfavorable is a net +15 in that Fox Latino poll, while Obama’s is +46. Colorado, where the fast-growing Hispanic population gave 75 percent of its vote to Obama in 2008, is a similar story to Florida. So is Nevada, where all of the major analysts still rate the Senate race between Republican Joe Heck and Democrat Catherine Cortez Masto a tossup—suggesting that they aren’t yet foreseeing a torrent of Democratic-voting Hispanics rush the polls in November.

#### Recent polls show Trump ahead of Hillary in Florida.

Nesbit 16 Jeff Nesbit, Contributor to US News, 2016 (“Get Ready to Say President Trump,” US News, <http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/at-the-edge/2016/03/01/president-donald-trump-likely-the-next-occupant-of-the-white-house>, March 1st, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Trump – once you strip away his foul language about bombing the you-know-what out of ISIS – is precisely the presidential candidate for the new Republican Party that the Koch donor network has meticulously assembled for 20 years in partnership with the tobacco industry, and other industries threatened by Washington regulations. (I've written about this effort in a new book, "Poison Tea," scheduled for publication April 5.) Trump is, in fact, their nearly ideal, prototypical, anti-Washington candidate. So are Marco Rubio or Ted Cruz. For these and other reasons, the Koch network, too, will swing in behind Trump. Here are the political data specifics. Clinton goes into the general election with a built-in advantage. She starts with an electoral base of 247 Electoral College votes out of 270 needed to win the presidency. That includes solid-to-leaning Democratic states. Trump starts with 207 solid-to-leaning GOP states. For Clinton, then, she needs just 23 electoral votes to become president. Winning Ohio (18) and Virginia (13) puts her over the top. Virginia and two other smaller states (like Nevada and New Hampshire) also put her over the top. It's for this reason that her most likely running mate is Tim Kaine, Virginia's junior Democratic senator. But Trump has the same electoral math in front of him. And, right now, he may be in better shape in these seven swing states than Clinton. Start with Florida. There have been two head-to-head polls (PPD and Florida Atlantic University) since the first of the year, according to RealClearPolitics. Trump beats Clinton by 2 and 3 points respectively.

### Yes Trump – New Hampshire

#### Economy is a top issue for New Hampshire – recent Bernie-like economic campaigns give Trump the edge in a tight race.

Viser 6/12/16 Matt Viser, writer at Boston Globe, 2016 (“Trump promises major speech in N.H. after Orlando massacre,” The Boston Globe, <https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2016/06/12/trump-prepares-for-trip-new-hampshire-monday/8sjXOOH4rXyyDQBNjhO3jP/story.html>, June 12th, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Two recent polls, both conducted last month, found Trump and Clinton in a statistical tie among New Hampshire voters. The polls also show that two-thirds of voters view both of them unfavorably. Trump does much better among men, while Clinton does far better among women. One of the top issues for New Hampshire residents is the economy, which could help Trump. “You really can’t drive through any town in New Hampshire with 2,500 people and not see an abandoned factory,” said Dave Carney, a veteran Republican consultant from New Hampshire. “He has broad appeal. He has the hard-core conservatives and more establishment guys. I think it’s very possible he could win New Hampshire.” Trump’s campaign is planning to appeal to the same supporters who were drawn to Senator Bernie Sanders, with a similar populist message. New Hampshire has delivered mixed results for the Clintons: Bill Clinton was deemed the “comeback kid” with a surprising finish in the 1992 primary; he twice won the general election there; and Hillary Clinton won the 2008 primary. But it was the scene of one Hillary Clinton’s most disappointing performances this year. Sanders soundly defeated her — 60 percent to 38 percent. If the Vermont senator doesn’t fully back Clinton, it could make the state a tougher climb. Compared with other swing states, New Hampshire is relatively inexpensive. Priorities USA Action, a Super PAC supporting Clinton, has reserved 117 ads on WMUR, spending some $422,000, on an ad that criticizes Trump for mocking a disabled New York Times reporter. The ad, called “Grace,” features the parents of a young girl talking about her disability. “The children at Grace’s school all know never to mock her, and so for an adult to mock someone with a disability is shocking,” says the girl’s mother. “When I saw Donald Trump mock somebody with a disability it showed me his soul, it showed me his heart,” adds her father. Trump has said that he wasn’t mocking the reporter himself, he was just speaking expressively. “I would never mock a person that has difficulty,” he said when the controversy erupted in November. Just as Clinton has a larger staff nationally, Trump appears to be outnumbered in New Hampshire. On a weekday last week, a Globe reporter found that Trump’s state headquarters was locked, with windows covered in paper, and a note for visitors to call for access. A few miles away, Clinton’s office had five full-time staffers. But in addition to Lewandowski, Trump has several New Hampshire-based staffers who were hired early and have remained on the payroll. They include his state director, Matt Ciepielowski, and deputy state director Andrew Georgevits. “It’s the state that gave us the first victory. It set us on the path. It really proves the naysayers wrong,” Lewandowski said. “He won by 20 points. He won every county, he won a majority of the municipalities. It wasn’t close. It was decisive.”

#### Trump’s increased campaigning, Sanders’ thrashing of Clinton, and best current political data point to a Trump victory in New Hampshire.

Nesbit 16 Jeff Nesbit, Contributor to US News, 2016 (“Get Ready to Say President Trump,” US News, <http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/at-the-edge/2016/03/01/president-donald-trump-likely-the-next-occupant-of-the-white-house>, March 1st, accessed 6/29/16) WP

Which leaves New Hampshire. Those four electoral votes from the seventh, and final, swing state might just give the presidency to either Clinton or Trump. The head-to-head polling in New Hampshire is all over the map right now. One (NBC) has them in a dead heat. Another (CNN) had Clinton up by nine. But they were all taken in early January, long before primary madness swept through the state – and where Clinton was soundly beaten by Sanders, and Trump cruised to a massive victory over many rivals. And, remember, Trump's campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski, not only ran the Koch political network's national voter registration efforts, he also directed AFP's New Hampshire office. So, if you're being honest about the current points of data on the political table, you'd give New Hampshire to Donald Trump. That gives him 272 electoral votes, two more than he needs.

### Yes Trump - Brexit

#### Britain’s political situation holds many parallels to the US – Brexit is proof that Trump will win

Lowrey 6/21/16 (Annie Lowrey reporter for New York Magazine, former Ney York Times reporter, “How Donald Trump Explains ‘Brexit’” New York Magazine, June 21st, available online at <http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2016/06/how-donald-trump-explains-brexit.html>, accessed 06-24-16 PAM)

Yet, in one recent poll of people who say they will definitely vote, the leaves have it, 49 percent to 48 percent. And among leave voters, 44 percent say that Brexit would have no effect on British jobs, and 45 percent say the effect would be good; only 3 percent of leave voters believe that the economy would actually weaken outside the European Union. With that last figure in mind, it's fair to question whether the average Brexit supporter is grounded in reality. It would be one thing to make a clear-eyed choice, accepting an economic hit based on a devotion to some larger political principle. But most pro-Brexit voters seem to live in a fantasy where bouncing from the EU will help the economy. That's troubling. This mass separation from reality also represents a parallel to what is going on with our strange, sad election in the United States. Both Donald Trump and Brexit have bubbled up during periods of slow-but-steady growth, high inequality, and wage stagnation — economic conditions that rankle voters but do not obsess them. In the United States, for the first time in a very long time, economic strife is not what is driving the polls. When you ask Americans what the most important problem facing the country is, economic concerns are still the most cited. Even so, a majority of respondents name something else — crime, drugs, guns, how the government is run — as the most important issue. Similarly, the economy is no longer Britons’ main concern. Right now, when asked what the most important issue facing the country is, they cite immigration, the National Health Service, and their relationship with Europe. The economy comes in fourth. In both cases, that seems to have left space for other concerns to override simple economic ones. (It seems to me there is a reason neither Brexit nor Trump really took hold in 2008 or 2010. You don’t try alternative medicines when you know you need surgery.) And in both cases, a sense of crisis around immigration, a deep sense of nationalism, and a distaste for elites and technocrats has taken hold. Let’s start with immigration. Among Republicans, Trump has tapped into a deep vein of anti-immigrant, pro-nativist sentiment, promising to seal the country’s borders and threatening to deport millions of people. Here’s one finding from Pew that suggests how his beliefs have translated into votes: "Among the vast majority of GOP voters who think that the growing number of newcomers to the U.S. 'threatens traditional American customs and values,' 59 percent have warm feelings toward Donald Trump – with 42 percent saying they feel very warmly toward him." Similarly, those voting for Brexit tend to worry about immigration making England less English, and about immigrants taking Britons’ jobs. “Citizens of regions where immigration is perceived as damaging are much more likely to vote for Brexit,” one study found. (I’ll note here that it is not obvious that leaving the European Union would do anything to tamp down on immigration, and that immigrants from the European Economic Area are a boon to the United Kingdom’s economy.) Immigration is certainly fair game for a policy debate, but beyond the legitimate questions there’s a dark underbelly to the anti-immigrant sentiment driving both the Donald’s astonishing rise in the United States and Brexit’s surprising success. Trump is openly xenophobic and racist, intentionally riling up his supporters in the worst ways and encouraging them to embrace and express their own bigotries. That's a dangerous road for any nation to start down. Some leaders of Brexit are openly xenophobic and racist and are using the same tactics. It makes fair-minded observers wonder what the real point is here: modest changes in immigration policy, or the rejection of the values that allow for a pluralistic society? Then there is the issue of antipathy toward elites. Trump is a rich and connected New Yorker, a Wharton grad, and the coddled inheritor of a real-estate fortune, sure. Nevertheless, with his middle finger raised to the Republican Establishment and to common standards of propriety, he has ridden a wave of distaste for the more buttoned-up masters of the universe. His voters are unusually likely to agree with statements like “It doesn’t really matter who you vote for because the rich control both political parties,” “Politics usually boils down to a struggle between the people and the powerful,” and “The system is stacked against people like me.” Similarly, the leave campaign has painted the remain campaign as urbane, out of touch, and beholden to a bunch of inept pencil pushers in Brussels, and has argued against trusting experts, elites, the powerful. “People in this country have had enough of experts,” said Michael Gove, the justice secretary and a leader of the leave movement, while appearing on Sky News. Leave voters are unusually likely to agree with statements like "To me, there isn't much difference between the major political parties in Britain,” “They are out of touch, and they don't fight for people like me," and “Britain's political parties, political institutions, and corporate powers are totally out of touch.” Now, they might have a point on some of that. But in both cases, this anti-elite sentiment seems to have morphed into a blithe anti-empiricism. (Numbers are only for technocrats these days, it seems.) The leave campaign’s headline economic argument is that the United Kingdom “sends” 350 million pounds, or half a billion dollars, a week to the European Union. This figure has been repeatedly and exhaustively debunked, yet it persists. Similarly — well, not entirely similarly — Trump’s policy proposals are the most banana-pants, math-challenged economic fantasy imaginable: He promises to pay off the national debt while also cutting taxes, insists a crippling trade war would help the economy, and so on. His supporters seem not to care. Be wary of political causes that are unfazed by facts that would seem to undercut their core assertions. Finally, the supporters of both Brexit and our presumptive GOP nominee feel a yen for national self-reliance. Many Britons are concerned that London has ceded too much sovereignty to Brussels, and believe that British laws should be made in Parliament. “This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance for us to take back control of this country,” said Boris Johnson, the former mayor of London and current member of Parliament, campaigning for Brexit. The nationalist yen is more cancerous here. “We're going to take our country back,” said Trump, campaigning for the presidency, making promises about global domination rather than a global partnership. But there's a reason that nations have, at the margins, ceded slivers of control to participate in larger economic and political alliances. Namely because they work, as measured by making us safer and more prosperous. None of these arguments are likely to convince a well-informed voter that either Brexit or electing Trump would be good for them in an economic sense. But in the case of Brexit (and the GOP base), they seem to be winning out. What’s the matter with East Anglia is that voters seem to be willing to trade away something real — their economic well-being — for things that are notional and even unrealistic: a more visceral desire to make England England again, to chasten the elites who brought on all this malaise, and to keep foreigners out. The Donald, for what it is worth, is on Team Leave. "Huh?" he said when The Hollywood Reporter asked him about it recently. The journalist interviewing him proceeded to explain what Brexit was to the candidate, who apparently was not familiar with it. "Oh yeah, I think they should leave,” Trump replied.

#### Brexit and long term polling prove that Trump will win now – your evidence underestimates angry voters

Hohmann 6/24/16 (James Hohmann 2016, National Political Correspondent — Washington, D.C. Washington Post, Accessed 06-24-16, "The Daily 202: Stop underestimating Trump. ‘Brexit’ vote shows why he can win.," https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/daily-202/2016/06/24/daily-202-stop-underestimating-trump-brexit-vote-shows-why-he-can-win/576c89e9981b92a22d2dd3dc/ Aliesa Bahri)

THE BIG IDEA: Britain’s stunning vote to leave the European Union suggests that we’ve been seriously underestimating Donald Trump’s ability to win the presidential election. When you consider all his controversies and self-inflicted wounds over the past month, combined with how much he’s getting outspent on the airwaves in the battleground states, it is actually quite surprising that Trump and Hillary Clinton are so close in the polls. He’s holding his own, especially in the Rust Belt. The British campaign to exit the European Union (known as “Brexit”), like Trump’s, was fueled by grievance. Those agitating to cut off formal ties to the continent were less organized and less funded than those who wanted to stay connected, but that deficit didn’t matter in the end, because the energy was against the status quo. “They have declared their independence from the European Union and have voted to reassert control over their own politics, borders and economy,” he elaborated in a statement. “Come November, the American people will have the chance to re-declare their independence. Americans will have a chance to vote for trade, immigration and foreign policies that put our citizens first. They will have the chance to reject today’s rule by the global elite, and to embrace real change that delivers a government of, by and for the people. I hope America is watching, it will soon be time to believe in America again.” -- In the short term, the impending fallout from Brexit will make the presumptive Democratic nominee look good. She advocated for Britain remaining in the union; Trump advocated for leaving. The markets are going to tank today, and this vote will set off a tsunami of repercussions that could meaningfully damage the global economy. People’s 401(k)’s might take a shellacking, and interest rates may spike. Any long-term benefits from breaking away will not be apparent until after the general election. British Prime Minister David Cameron resigned overnight, triggering political chaos and a succession battle. Scottish leaders are already saying they will push for a new referendum to secede from the U.K. --Read the latest on the Brexit earthquake on the Post's liveblog. -- Looking ahead to the fall, though, loud alarm bells should be going off inside Clinton’s Brooklyn headquarters. Globally, there are strong tides of anti-establishment anger, nationalism and populism that bode poorly for the Secretary of State. “Trump’s slogan, ‘Make America Great Again,’ could easily have been adapted to the messaging of those in the ‘leave’ campaign,” Dan Balz writes from London. “That desire for a return to an earlier time — to make Britain great again — is expressed through the issue of control. Those who have pushed for Britain to leave the E.U. want to reclaim a measure of sovereignty by wresting power from the bureaucrats in Brussels. … They feel about the E.U. bureaucracy as tea party Republicans do about the federal government.” -- Trump still seems far more likely to lose than win, especially when you think about the Electoral College map. But the results across the pond spotlight five forces that could allow him to score an upset: 1. RESENTMENT OF ELITES Virtually every serious economist and “expert” warned of calamity if Britain left the E.U. These technocrats used to be respected arbiters whose judgments carried considerable weight. A majority of Brits, though, tuned them out this year. “People in this country have had enough of experts,” Michael Gove, a Conservative Party lawmaker who wanted to leave, said when he was challenged during a TV interview to name a credible economic authority who supported an E.U. exit. “I’m glad these organizations aren’t on my side.” Polls show a long-term trend of voters losing faith in experts and institutions. Surveys suggested that the British resented Barack Obama and other foreign leaders who strongly urged them to remain in a union that they did not feel was serving them. Forced to choose between their heads and their hearts, the Brits went with their hearts. 2. XENOPHOBIA Scapegoating immigrants worked. Polls show that fear of refugees and immigrants from the E.U.’s open borders was a top issue driving votes to leave. Here in the U.S. we talk a lot about how Trump has galvanized Latinos who have never voted before. This could cost him and the GOP dearly, but the flip side is that he’s activated a lot of angry white voters. There was a lot of media coverage in the past few days about how the nativist appeals might have gone too far and turned off some moderates in Britain. There were some over-the-top posters and claims about Turks and Syrians flooding the country. But they clearly proved more effective than detrimental: As a veteran of the George W. Bush White House puts it: Out: mass migration is an indispensable part of an open global economy. In: mass migration is the top threat to an open global economy. French Far Right leader Marine Le Pen, a vocal nativist, celebrated Brexit by changing her Twitter picture to the Union Jack: Victoire de la liberté ! Comme je le demande depuis des années, il faut maintenant le même référendum en France et dans les pays de l'UE MLP. 3. ISOLATIONISM Trump likes to describe his foreign policy as “America First,” even though it has been pointed out to him that this is the same catchphrase Charles Lindbergh used in the late 1930s when he was trying to stop the U.S. from assisting Britain in its war for national survival against the Nazis. Eyewitnesses said that the man who murdered Jo Cox, a British member of parliament and outspoken supporter of the Remain effort, shouted “Britain First” as he killed her last week.

Trump wants to scale back U.S. support for NATO and has suggested that he sees Eastern Europe as some kind of Russian sphere of influence. This scares the bejesus out of the Baltic States, such as Estonia, which are constantly at risk of being annexed by Vladimir Putin. The NATO alliance, like the EU, has been a bulwark of the post-World War II international system. This now threatens to unravel. The E.U. is plunging into an existential crisis. The 28-member union will splinter and significantly weaken, Anthony Faiola reports from Berlin and Michael Birnbaum reports from Brussels. Rick Noack in London looks at six countries that might now be emboldened to leave the E.U.:  Sweden, Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands, Hungary and France. Russian leaders are cheering the news, Andrew Roth reports from Moscow. 4. FLAWED POLLING The polls showed a neck-and-neck race, and surveys in the past few days showed movement in the direction of “Remain” after Cox’s murder. In the end, though, “Leave” prevailed by 4 points. Perhaps some voters who wanted to “Leave” were afraid to tell pollsters as much after the assassination? Are live-caller polls in the U.S. similarly underestimating Trump’s strength? We’ve written here about how Trump does better in online and automated phone polls than in those conducted by live human beings. It seems undeniable at this point that there is some number of Trump supporters out there who do not want to admit it in fashionable company. From the director of polling at the NRSC in the 2014 cycle: Polling implications of

#### Trump will win because his situation is the same as British exit supporters – Trump-like nationalist rhetoric led to a victory.

Belvedere 6/23/16 [Matthew J. Belvedere, writer at NBC, 2016, (“Angst behind Brexit push parallels Trump phenomenon in US: Economists,” NBC, June 23rd, <http://www.cnbc.com/2016/06/23/angst-behind-brexit-push-parallels-trump-phenomenon-in-us-british-economist.html>,) accessed 6/24/16, WP]

The motivations of supporters in Britain for the country to leave the European Union are similar to those sparking the rise of Donald Trump in the United States, two economists told CNBC on Thursday, as Britons went to the polls to vote on the Brexit. "A lot of the rhetoric you're hearing in the U.K. in favor of leaving is very similar to the rhetoric you hear from Donald Trump and his supporters," Robert Hormats, a former Goldman Sachs International vice chairman, said on "Squawk Box." British economist Anatole Kaletsky told "Worldwide Exchange" in an earlier interview: "The general sense of angst ... it's very similar to the Trump phenomenon. Here, it's being taken out on the EU. And in America, it's being taken out on Muslims and Mexican immigrants." "We can't totally assume Brexit is not going to win," added Hormats, who had served in the Hillary Clinton State Department as under secretary for economic growth. "This demonstrates the intensity of the nationalistic, xenophobic, anti-immigration feeling that exists in the U.K. [and] other parts of Europe," he said. British supporters of the leave vote are more emotional than their stay counterparts, who staked out their position on economics, said Kaletsky, chief economist and co-chairman of Gavekal Dragonomics. Kaletsky said this week's prediction from billionaire investor George Soros that a leave victory could send the British currency 15 to 20 percent lower is "very realistic." The betting odds were favoring the stay camp by 80 percent to 20 percent, said Kaletsky. "If the odds turn out to be wrong, the loss [in the pound] should be about four times greater than the potential [5 percent stay] gain. You're looking at a fall of about 20 percent." The British economy and financial markets would suffer in the short term if the leave camp were to win, Kaletsky said. "The next two years would Hormats, currently vice chairman of consultancy Kissinger Associates. "This vote is a vote for divorce. The terms of divorce will take two, three, four, five, six [or] seven years to work out."be very bad." A Brexit win would spark "massive long-term uncertainty," agreed

### Yes Trump – A2: Polls + Brexit

#### Brexit proves Trump win – radical nationalists including hidden working-class citizens will prove polls wrong.

Weber 6/24/16 Pete Weber, writer at The Week, 2016, (“Why Brexit should scare anti-Trump Americans,” The Week, June 24th, <http://theweek.com/articles/632118/why-brexit-should-scare-antitrump-americans)> 6/24/16, WP

America has its own big decision coming up, and if you are a supporter of Trump, Britain's decisive vote to leave the EU is glad tidings, a ray of sunshine after a few weeks of soupy London fog. If you don't want Donald Trump to be president, the Brexit vote is a wake-up call. The first lesson Brexit has for anti-Trump America is that there's a potential majority out there that is angry, scared, and more than willing to jump into the abyss. Sober analysts and economists warned Britons repeatedly that pulling out of the EU would be an economic and security debacle. "They heard the warnings, listened to experts of every kind tell them that Brexit meant disaster, watched the prime minister as he urged them not to take a terrible risk," says Matthew d'Ancona at The Guardian. "And their answer was: Get stuffed." It wasn't young people giving the finger to the experts, either. According to a YouGov poll, support for exiting the EU steadily rose with each age bracket, from 75 percent of those aged 18 to 24 wanting to stay, versus 39 percent for those 65 and older. If older Britons are proving less risk-averse than the young, there's no reason to think America's most reliable voters are immune to change fever. In many ways, Hillary Clinton represents a continuation of President Obama's policies, and Donald Trump inarguably represents change. Great Britain is, technically, an island (or two), but the winds buffeting the U.K. don't stop at the water's edge. "The referendum came at a time when populist revolts against elites were gaining momentum, from Eurosceptic parties in France, Germany, Austria, and Scandinavia to Trump's brand of Republicanism in the U.S.," says The Guardian. "As ever," adds The New York Times, "referendums are not about the question asked but the political mood at the time, and the political mood is sour." The second big lesson Brexit has for Trump opponents is that nativism, anti-immigration fervor, and elite-bashing are potent tools, not to be underestimated. There was a definite flavor of "Make Britain Great Again" running through the Leave campaign, with Brexit proponents arguing that British sovereignty was being undermined by unelected elites in Brussels. One reason the referendum passed is the unexpectedly strong support of working-class Labour voters in northern England, the rough equivalent of midwestern Reagan Democrats, who don't believe they have benefitted from open markets and open borders. So "while leaders of the Leave campaign spoke earnestly about sovereignty and the supremacy of Parliament," says Steven Erlanger at The New York Times, "it was anxiety about immigration — membership in the European Union means freedom of movement and labor throughout the bloc — that defined and probably swung the campaign." The Leave camp urged Britain to "take control" of its borders. Instead of Mexico, the Eurosceptics pointed an accusatory finger at Turkey, which hopes to join the EU. In the hands of the U.K. Independence Party and its leader Nigel Farage — whose success in the polls pressured Cameron to call for the referendum in the first place — that anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim sentiment was not infrequently called racism. The last red flag for those who don't want Trump to be president is that you can only trust the polls so much. Just about everybody who's anybody was in favor of staying in the EU — every living prime minister, the leader of Britain's two major parties, Obama and the leader of every other important ally, academics, business leaders, and celebrities — but a majority of everyone else said no. I mean, England ignored a plea from James Bond. The polls before the referendum were close, and tightening, but most Britons went to bed Thursday night with the expectation that they would still be a part of Europe when they woke up. If the best polls got it wrong, it's possible that Britons were telling pollsters what all the cool kids were saying, not how they intended to vote. The American elite — Obama, academics, business leaders, celebrities, and even a good number of Republican opinion and political leaders — are wary or hostile to the idea of a President Trump.

Analysts who said Brexit wouldn’t happen made the same mistake “Hillary will win” authors are making – they don’t take into account the strong emotions of Trump supporters.

Filger 16 Sheldon Filger, writer at The Huffington Post, 2016, (“Brexit Has Implications For Hillary Clinton And Donald Trump In Upcoming Presidential Election,” The Huffington Post, June 24th , <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sheldon-filger/brexit-has-implications-f_b_10654910.html)> 6/24/16, WP

What has stunned observers about the outcome of the Brexit campaign is that the referendum’s result ran counter to what the analysts, supposed expert prognosticators and well-compensated pundits had so confidently predicted. The established experts had even convinced supporters of Brexit that they would likely lose the referendum, in the hours before actual voting occurred. That is why bourses across the globe soared, and the British pound reached record highs, until reality radically reversed those trends. The odds-makers clearly were convinced that British voters would choose to remain in the European Union. The actual, unpredicted outcome was an unmitigated defeat for the UK’s political establishment across the political spectrum, and that aspect has the greatest resonance with the battle between Clinton and Trump to succeed Barack Obama as America’s 45th President. Just as with the Brexit referendum, America’s own class of political consultants and expert commentators for months assessed Donald Trump’s presidential campaign to be a megalomaniacal joke, with no chance of prevailing in the Republican Party’s presidential Primary. When Trump emerged victorious in the GOP presidential selection process before Hillary Clinton had secured the Democratic Party’s nomination, the same experts, rather than being reflective and self-critical, have largely double-downed on failure, and remain steadfast in their prediction that Trump has no realistic possibility of winning November’s presidential election. Setting aside the occasional diatribes of Trump that tend to obfuscate a cogent analysis of his campaign’s actual strength, it is clear that the political dynamics that led to the stunning vote in the United Kingdom to exit the European Union are also at play in the United States, to the benefit of the real estate mogul. The British electorate revealed itself as being alienated from their nation’s political establishment, with public policy on immigration a crucial driving force in shaping attitudes prior to the Brexit vote. In the U.S. primary campaign, similar forms of disenchantment underpinned Trump’s ability to vanquish his GOP competitors. In November 2016 American voters will choose between one candidate being the quintessential representative of the discredited and abhorred political establishment, and the other candidate powerfully branded as the ultimate anti-establishment figure. The legion of America’s political experts who, despite evidence that the domestic electorate seeks change in 2016, remain fixed in their view that Trump cannot win, may prove, as with their British counterparts, to have been unduly confident in the validity of their political estimates on the mood of the voters.

### Yes Trump – Isolationism + Brexit

#### Brexit proves that Trump and his isolationist agenda will win in 2016

Rahman and Enoch 6/24/16— Khaleda Rahman and Nick Enoch- Rahman is a reporter for Daily Mail and Mail Online; Enoch is also a reporter for both sources. 2016. ('Brexit is proof that Trump will be the next president': 'Anti-immigration' message and shift to the Right that led to UK's seismic break with Europe draws parallels with rise of The Donald’, Daily Mail, June 24 2016, Available online at <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3657782/Brexit-proof-Donald-Trump-president.html>, Accessed 06/24/16, CAW)

As Donald Trump flew in to Scotland today after the UK's seismic break with the European Union, parallels have been drawn with the anti-immigration message that led to Brexit and his rise to presumptive Republican presidential candidate. Many have pointed out the similarities between Britain's decision to leave the EU and Trump's campaign - and believe it is an indication of how Americans will vote on November 8, which could see Trump in the White House. The Donald's arrival in the UK will be seen by many as a meeting of minds - two worlds colliding with shared views including a disgruntled electorate; lost national pride; isolationism; and the issue of immigration. However, he may not get the desired reception in Scotland: while voters in England and Wales swung the result for Leave, Scots voted overwhelmingly for remaining part of the EU. And today, he promised close ties between the U.S. and UK if he becomes President, saying: 'A Trump Administration pledges to strengthen our ties with a free and independent Britain, deepening our bonds in commerce, culture and mutual defense'. 'Brexit is further proof that Donald J Trump will be the next President of the United States,' wrote Broderick Greer on Twitter. Paul Harris added that Americans should learn a lesson from the result in Britain. 'If you think Trump can't win you are lazy, complacent and very dangerous,' he warned. Arnivan Ghosh said Trump should look for tips from Nigel Farage, the leader of the UK Independence Party who has spent 20 years campaigning to the country to leave the EU, on how to win with a 'divisive, anti-immigration' message. 'That Nigel dude is British Trump,' added Wanda Sykes. Huw James Collins added: 'The correlation of Trump enthusiasts delighting in the 'Leave' victory perfectly illuminates the roots of this debacle.' Others were concerned that the result will lend credence to Trump's nationalistic agenda and mean other nations turn to isolationist policies. 'Deeply concerned that #Brexit will cue other nations to recede into isolationism, and lend credence to #Trump's nativist agenda,' wrote Guy Wilson. Many have warned that this nationalist drive now sets the world stage for a Donald Trump presidency. In an op-ed for the LA Times, London School of Economics fellow Brian Klaas and Marcel Dirsus, a lecturer at the University of Kiel in Germany, compare Brexit voters to 'Trump supporters sporting "Make America Great Again" hats' who 'believe they have lost too much for too long'. 'Their complaint is understandable,' they write. 'But turning inward will only make their problems worse and the world more dangerous. 'Britain narrowly succumbed to isolationist populism Thursday. Let’s hope Americans don’t make the same mistake by voting for a Trump presidency come November.' Meanwhile, BBC World News anchor Katty Kay, an English journalist now based in Washington, said that if ‘disgruntlement, nationalism, populism and anti-globalization’ are enough to force a radical move in the UK, then it could be the same in the United States. She highlighted five reasons why Brexit could mean the billionaire businessman winning the White House in November: an angry electorate, globalization, immigration, lost pride and populism. ‘The two most surprising political phenomena of this year have been the rise of Donald Trump and the success of the Leave Europe camp in Britain’s referendum on Brexit,’ she wrote in an article published earlier this week. Kay notes that few pundits saw either coming, including herself, but believes the result in Britain could indicate how America votes in the November 8 election. She compared Donald Trump’s tactic of tapping into the angry electorate with Boris Johnson, the former Mayor of London who campaigned for Britain to leave the EU. ‘Mr Johnson promises Brits a better deal if they throw off the onerous yoke of EU regulations. Mr Trump promises Americans a better deal if they put him in the White House.’

#### Brixit’s decision shows anti-immigrant, anti-globalization, disgruntlement, nationalism, and populism are strong- Proves Trump will win the election

Kay 6/20/16— Katty Kay, Kay is the lead anchor and writer for BBC News America, is a board member of the IWMF, and studied at Oxford. 2016 (“Five reasons Brexit could signal Trump winning the White House”, BBC News, June 20 2016, Available online at <http://www.bbc.com/news/election-us-2016-36564808>, accessed 06/24/16, CAW)

The two most surprising political phenomena of this year have been the rise of Donald Trump and the success of the Leave Europe camp in Britain's referendum on Brexit. Few pundits saw either coming (and full disclosure, I include myself here, particularly on Trump) - but we should have and now would be a good chance to make up for past oversight by looking at how the two are linked. This week, polls suggest, Britain may pull out of the European Union. Opinion polls currently have the 23 June referendum too close to call but the Brexit camp (those in favour of the UK splitting from the EU) has been inching ahead in recent weeks. Later this year, Americans will decide whether to elect Donald Trump as the 45th US President, or Hillary Clinton. Opinion polls also suggest this race is close, though with five months to go, those polls aren't terribly instructive yet. Yet the result next week in Britain could give us some indication of how Americans will vote in November. Here's five reasons why. Angry electorate Donald Trump and Boris Johnson, the leader of the Leave campaign, have tapped into a similar public mood of disgruntlement. On both sides of the Atlantic, a lot of people feel they've been handed a bad deal. In the UK, it's European bureaucrats in Brussels who are to blame. In the US, it's elected politicians in Washington who are held responsible. Mr Johnson promises Brits a better deal if they throw off the onerous yoke of EU regulations. Mr Trump promises Americans a better deal if they put him in the White House. Globalisation The forces of globalisation are causing havoc for European workers as they are for American workers. If you are a white working class man (in particular) the combined effects of immigration, free trade and technology have made your job and your wages less secure. Policy makers in the UK and the US have singularly failed to address these issues in any meaningful way. If the Brexit camp wins next week it could suggest the global anti-globalisation mood (if such a thing is possible) is stronger than we realised. Immigration Immigration deserves its own category because it is so critical in both campaigns. Economists argue about the relative impact of immigrants versus robots on wage stagnation - voters don't care much. They blame immigrants. It's easier to get mad at a person from Macedonia or Mexico, taking your job than it is to get mad at a piece of technology from Silicon Valley. In both countries, governments haven't handled immigration well. America tried and failed to implement immigration reform and the country's Southern border remains porous (though to be fair, more people are using it to go south not north at the moment.) Like its European partner, the British government is caught in the nightmare story that is the European migrant/refugee crisis, with no effective response. Lost pride The complicated feeling of having had a bad deal has created an insidious spin off, a sense of broken pride, both national and personal. Working men, in particular, face a world they did not expect, jobs are hard to find and pay badly meaning they often can't provide single-handedly for their families, as their fathers and grandfathers did. That alone causes a loss of pride. In the US it is also linked to a loss of national pride through a sentiment among Trump supporters that President Obama has diminished the reputation of America by going on what they refer to as his "global apology tour." For Brits the loss of national pride comes from a feeling that British sovereignty has been given away to Brussels and if we leave the EU, we will be stronger, better, more respected. Populism And, finally, populism loves simplicity, especially, it seems, when it's dressed up with an impressively wacky hair do. Boris Johnson and Donald Trump appeal to the heart not the head, they offer simple solutions in a time of complex problems. It's an appealing message. Think about the complicated consequences later, the thinking seems to go, for now protesting the status quo feels like a good start. A victory for Brexit next week by no means guarantees a Trump victory in the autumn. However, if the forces of disgruntlement, nationalism, populism and anti-globalisation are strong enough to force a radical move in the UK, they may be strong enough to force a radical election in America too.

## Link

### Link Turn Module – Independents

#### Independents overwhelmingly support foreign policy and trade

Friedman 12 Uri Friedman, writer for Foreign Policy, 2012 (“What is the foreign policy of independent voters” <http://foreignpolicy.com/2012/10/16/whats-the-foreign-policy-of-independent-voters/> October 16th ) WP

Here’s a quick look at the ways self-identified independents responded to the organization’s questions: Nearly 60 percent believe the United States is headed down the wrong track¶ 49 percent say the economy is their top voting concern; only 5 percent say national security is¶ Roughly 18 percent identify terrorists as the biggest threat to American national security interests, making it the most popular choice among the group, and 43 percent think the threat of terrorism on American soil has increased since 9/11 ¶ 48 percent cite Iran as the country that poses the most danger to American national security interests¶ Roughly 57 percent favor preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons even if that means taking U.S. military action against Tehran — placing independents between Democrats (49 percent) and Republicans (79 percent) ¶ Independents are pretty much evenly split on whether the United States should maintain its troop presence in Afghanistan to prevent the country from becoming a safe haven for terrorists or withdraw U.S. forces regardless of whether Afghan security forces are prepared to security the country; Republicans favor keeping troops in the country while Democrats favor withdrawal¶ Around 65 percent feel the United States should work with its allies to establish a no-fly zone in Syria¶ 50 percent think we’re spending the right amount of money on national defense, putting independents at odds with Democrats (who are more likely to support reductions) and Republicans (who are more likely to support increases)¶ Nearly 60 percent believe foreign aid is a waste, again placing independents between Democrats (42 percent) and Republicans (63 percent), but nearly three out of four would support foreign assistance if there was a system to ensure that the aid was used effectively¶ More than 50 percent have an unfavorable view of China and just under 50 percent have an unfavorable view of Russia; more than 60 percent have an unfavorable view of Egypt¶ 72 percent have a favorable view of Israel¶ 64 percent think trade between the United States and foreign countries is a good thing¶ Roughly 87 percent believe America is a force for good in the world and more than 90 percent say it is important for the United States to play a significant role in world affairs¶ Independents, of course, are not necessarily synonymous with undecided voters (according to the FPI poll, more than 40 percent of independents report that they’re either voting for Obama or leaning toward doing so, and just under 40 percent say the same about Romney).But if you track another, significantly smaller group in the survey — those who identify as "firm undecideds" when it comes to the election — on the issues listed above, you’ll find the same broad trends. The portrait of the independent voter that emerges — focused primarily on the economy, wary of tinkering with defense spending, relatively hawkish on Iran and Syria, concerned about the rise of China, ambivalent on Afghanistan, skeptical of foreign aid, pessimistic about the direction of the country but bullish on America’s global leadership — is worth keeping in mind as you watch tonight’s debate.

#### They’re key to the election

Young 15 [J.T. Young; served in the Treasury Department and the Office of Management and Budget as well as a Congressional staff member; Winning The 2016 Election Means Winning Independents; APR 27, 2015 @ 10:00 AM; http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2015/04/27/2016-election-a-partisan-fight-for-nonpartisan-voters/#173794486330//TPB]

Partisan politics can work at the state and local levels and recently, they’ve worked remarkably well—hence why Congress is now so polarized. Republicans have capitalized on the broader public’s dissatisfaction with President Barack Obama, reaching their largest Congressional majorities in decades. And Democrats’ corresponding losses have come in their more conservative districts, making congressional Democrats more liberal as a whole.¶ However, winning a presidential election means winning Independent voters. In America’s only nationwide election, in which almost all the electoral votes are decided on a winner-take-all basis, state and local partisan splits tend to offset. The result: America’s middle takes on increasing importance.¶ Under the president, that middle has also grown absolutely. According to Gallup polling, when Obama took office in 2009, 36% of voters identified themselves as Democrats, versus 30% for Republicans and 33% for Independents. Now, Republicans comprise about 27% of the electorate (down 3%) and Democrats, about 28% (down 8%). On the other hand, the number of Independents has gained a considerable 11% and currently sits at 44%.

### Link Turn – Public Support

#### Plan is popular – public has consistently seen China as a beneficial trade ally for 10 years

Friedhoff and Smeltz 15 Karl Friedhoff, Fellow, Public Opinion and Foreign Policy; [Dina Smeltz](https://www.thechicagocouncil.org/publication/americans-view-relations-china-important-despite-some-mistrust#tablist1-tab1), Senior Fellow, Public Opinion and Foreign Policy, 2016, (AMERICANS VIEW RELATIONS WITH CHINA AS IMPORTANT DESPITE SOME MISTRUST, September 22nd, <https://www.thechicagocouncil.org/publication/americans-view-relations-china-important-despite-some-mistrust>, 6.22.16, WP

Despite suspicions toward China, the American public prefers engagement to the containment of China. In the 2014 Chicago Council Survey, 67 percent of Americans said the United States should undertake friendly cooperation and engagement with China. Three in ten (29%) said that the United States should seek to actively limit China’s growth. This finding has been consistent since the question was first asked in 2006. Americans underscore the importance of ties to China likely because of growing Chinese influence in Asia. Fifty-two percent expect that China’s influence in Asia will grow in the next ten years, compared to just 31 percent who expect the same from the United States. [2] Some expectation of China’s influence in the next decade, however, is based on misperception. From 2010 through 2014, Pew Research surveys showed that Americans were either as likely or more likely to name China as to name the United States when asked which country is the world’s leading economic power. In the most recent spring 2015 survey, however, Americans were more likely to say that the United States leads by ten percentage points (46% US, 36% China), perhaps a reflection of China’s economic difficulties over the past several months as well as US economic recovery.

#### Public supports the plan – fears full military confrontation

Lumbers 15 (Michael, PhD, heads the Emerging Security Program at the NATO Association of Canada and serves as a senior analyst for the Asia Pacific Desk at Wikistrat, “Whither the Pivot? Alternative U.S. Strategies for Responding to China's Rise” *Comparative Strategy*, 34(4), 311-329)

Short of such a shock, it is exceedingly difficult to envision such a radical departure in strategy garnering support at home or among regional allies. Generally, recent public opinion surveys have revealed that while Americans are uneasy about China’s rise, they are roughly divided when asked whether the United States should adopt a tougher economic posture toward China, while strong majorities are opposed to a military confrontation. When asked whether the U.S. should engage with China or work to limit its rise, roughly two-thirds have consistently opted for the former approach.10 The marked decline in enthusiasm for U.S. activism abroad after a decade of entanglement in the Middle East and in the wake of a financial crisis has surely only cemented this sentiment.11 Circumstances, of course, could change. For the foreseeable future, however, popular support for a strategy of confrontation would only result from a direct, unprecedented Chinese threat to U.S. security.

**Link Turn – Competition**

#### Broad data research found that many counties increase in congressional democrat votes after permanent normal trade relations with China.

**Che et al 16** Yi Che, Yi Lu, Justin R. Pierce, Peter K. Schott, Zhigang Tao, writers at National Bureau of Economic Research, 2016, (DOES TRADE LIBERALIZATION WITH CHINA INFLUENCE U.S. ELECTIONS?, April, <http://www.nber.org/papers/w22178.pdf>, 6/22/16. WP

We find that U.S. counties more exposed to increased competition from China experience increases in the share of voters cast for Democrats in Congressional elections, along with increases in the probability that a Democrat represents a county and the probability of a county switching from a Republican to a Democrat Representative. The results are also economically significant we find that moving a county from the 25th to the 75th percentile of exposure to China increases the Democrat vote share in Congressional elections by 1.5 percentage points, or a 3.7 percent increase relative to the average share of voter won by Democrats in the 2000 Congressional election. Moreover, we find that the effect of the increase in import competition on voting is slightly larger once we account for the exposure of other counties in the same labor market, and that increased import competition is associated with higher voter turnout and a higher share of votes cast for Democrats in Presidential and gubernatorial elections. The second half of our analysis investigates potential links between these voting outcomes and the policy choices of legislators in Congress. We use a regression discontinuity approach to examine differences between Democrats and Republicans voting on hills related to trade and economic assistance programs. We find that Democrats are more likely to support policies that limit import competition and that provide economic assistance that may benefit workers adversely affected by trade competition, providing an explanation for the voting behavior documented in the first part of our paper.

### Link Turn – Chinese Economy

#### China’s economy is key to ensuring Clinton’s win

Long 15— Heather Long, CNNMoney’s senior markets and economy writer, editor at The Guardian, Master’s in Financial economics from Oxford, 2015. (“China could really hurt Democrats in 2016”, CNN Money, Available online at <http://money.cnn.com/2015/09/05/news/economy/china-us-economy-democrats/>, Accessed 06/22/16, CAW)

It's no secret that Democrats need the American economy to stay strong until Election Day 2016. Right now the biggest threat to that is China. No one knows exactly how much China's economy is slowing down. But there's wide agreement that the country isn't growing at 7% like the government says. China's hiccups are being felt around the world. They've already sent Canada and Brazil into recession and caused the U.S. stock market to plunge dramatically at the end of August. There are fears the world economy could get worse in the coming months and hurt the U.S. -- just around the time Americans really start to tune in to the presidential election. "Neither Clinton nor Biden can escape the Obama economy," says Larry Sabato, director of the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "They will either pick the fruits or bear the burden." Related: If the stock market hits this level, then get nervous This should be the Democrats' moment. China is thwarting Democrats' economic message. This should have been a glory moment for Democrats. They should be bragging about how President Obama & team -- including Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden -- brought America back from the worst recession since the Great Depression era. Most countries are looking enviously at the U.S. right now. It's growing at a healthy 2.3%. Last year was the best year of job growth since 1999. The dollar is strong, gas is cheap and even the auto sector is bouncing back. "This is not the worst record to run on," says hedge fund billionaire Jim Chanos, who has pledged his support for Joe Biden. But hardly anyone is talking about the Obama economy's triumphs. Instead, the conversation now is dominated by China, the stock market and a growing sense of worry. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) just warned it expects weaker growth. China and nerves are the talk of the town There's a general sense on both Wall Street and Main Street that although America is doing all right now, the rest of the world could pull the U.S. down. "A day like [Tuesday] or last week when the Dow was down by 1,000 points causes some people to worry that the economy will begin to soften. That's a natural fear," says Greg Valliere, chief political strategist at Potomac Research. September could be rough for Dems. September is unlikely to be much kinder for Democrats when it comes to the economy. The Federal Reserve meets September 16 and 17. America's central bank now isn't sure that the economy is strong enough to handle raising interest rates for the first time in about a decade. Whatever the Fed decides, it's likely to cause more stock market swings. And if the central bank doesn't raise rates, there will be even more concerns about cracks in the Obama economy. On top of that, Chinese president Xi Jinping is coming to meet with President Obama in a big summit. The global economy will almost certainly be a key discussion point. Pope Francis is visiting as well. He is widely expected to criticize major inequality problems in America. As if China and the stock market aren't concerning enough, the majority of Americans now believe their kids will not be better off than their parents. "This is the first generation for which the American Dream -- work hard, work for the same company for 40 years, get a good pension -- is going away," says Steve Schale, a Democratic strategist who is part of the Draft Biden camp. "It's a really unsettling era." Of course, there's still a long way to go until Election Day. A lot can change for China, the U.S. and the rest of the world. But right now, Democrats face an increasingly challenging messaging problem on the economy.

### Link Turn – A2: Weak on China/Gross

#### GOP painting Clinton as soft on China hands her the election – highlights her experience and their lack

Golan, 15

[Shanhar, The Henry Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, Rethinking United States Military Bases in East Asia, Building a Pragmatic Coalition in American Politics, Winter, 2015, <https://digital.lib.washington.edu/researchworks/bitstream/handle/1773/33275/Task%20Force%20E%202015.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]

Alongside the Hillary factor, another complication in any future plan of the Republican Party to oppose Clinton is their party’s vastly divided stances. First of all, unlike the Democrats, the Republicans have many possible front-runners in 2016, and their primaries are promising to be a tough battle. A recent New York Times article described the upcoming fight for the Republican nomination as “a crowded field of people who say they are considering running for president — including Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, former Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida, Senator Ted Cruz of Texas and the 2012 presidential nominee, Mitt Romney — has emerged. That means the party is expecting a bruising ideological battle for the nomination” (Chozick, 2015, n.p.). Although since the publication of the article, Mitt Romney has bowed out, the description continues to be relevant to the challenges facing the Republican Party. Added to this contentious reality, there is also increasing plurality in top Republican’s positions on foreign policy. While it has been established earlier in this report that since the Korean War the Republicans have managed to brand themselves as the more hawkish of the two parties, a different trend of conservatism is currently gaining momentum in the Republican Party. As Dueck points out in his book, “conservative anti interventionists have no doubt become a more visible national presence in recent years, producing some writing of high quality in venues such as Reason and the American Conservative” (Dueck, p.304). This raise of anti-interventionism can be seen most straightforwardly in aspiring presidential candidate Rand Paul. Kelly also observes a shift in the Republican Party’s foreign policy asserting that “even within the GOP, there appears to be a small if growing constituency for military spending restraint,” a call that contradicts the Republican mainstream in the post WWII era (Kelly, p.497). While mainstream Republicans still present themselves as vehement hawks, the alternate policy positions present in this multipolar Republican primary a promise to provide an array of problematic foreign policy statements. These likely assertions are sure to haunt the eventual nominee of the GOP. This lack of consensus is a massive boost for the Democrats, and thus eases domestic pressures on the reforms. Clinton, who has served as Secretary of State, Senator, and the First Lady, would be a difficult contender in the realm of foreign policy for a GOP candidate, even if that individual sailed through the primaries. The current political realities make the ‘China’ and ‘North Korea’ cards highly unlikely to improve the Republican standing. With the divided camp in the Republican Party, as well as Clinton’s perceived relative hawkishness, attacking her for being soft on the PRC and the DPRK seems like a dangerous game to play for any aspiring Republican presidential candidate.